

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 05633 221237Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

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AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION USNATO

EUCOM

CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5633

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MASS, TU, US

SUBJ: OPPOSITION STANCE ON CYPRUS, ARMS EMBARGO, U.S. RELATIONS

1. ONE OF OPPOSITION LEADER ECEVIT'S CLOSEST ASSOCIATES, DR. DENIZ BAYKAL, DEP SEC GEN OF THE REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP), OUTLINED THE PARTY'S POSITION ON A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT, THE ARMS EMBARGO, AND U.S. RELATIONS DURING A CALL BY EMBOFF JULY 21.

2. CYPRUS. THE RPP, AS ECEVIT HAD MADE CLEAR IN HIS JULY 20 PRESS CONFERENCE (ANKARA 5620), WANTED THE GOVERNMENT TO MOVE AHEAD IN THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT REGARD TO THE POLITICAL ISSUE OF  
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PAGE 02 ANKARA 05633 221237Z

SUCCUMBING TO THE CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE EMBODIED IN THE ARMS

EMBARGO, BAYKAL SAID. THE REASON WAS THE CLEAR FACT THAT THE CYPRUS PROBLEM GREW MORE DIFFICULT AS TIME PASSED AND THAT THE SITUATION IN GREECE COULD DETERIORATE SOON IF THERE WERE NO CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. TURKEY'S OWN INTERESTS DICTATED AN EARLY SETTLEMENT, AND THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT BLAME ITS HESITANCY ON THE OPPOSITION. (NOTE: THE RPP'S PUBLIC POSITION IN THIS REGARD WAS FURTHER DEFINED IN A JULY 21 MAGAZINE ARTICLE BY FORMER FONMIN GUNES, WHO SAID: "THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT IS RUNNING FOREIGN POLICY IN A MANNER IT THINKS WILL SERVE IT TO GAIN PRESTIGE AT HOME OR AT LEAST PREVENT LOSING IT...IN DIPLOMATIC LOBBIES IT IS SAYING THAT IT CANNOT GIVE CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS BECAUSE OF THE RPP OPPOSITION.")

3. ARMS EMBARGO. BAYKAL SAID THAT THE RPP HAD CONSCIOUSLY WITHHELD CRITICISM OF THE DECISION WHICH THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED JULY 17 TO POSTPONE FURTHER THE QUESTION OF TAKING MEASURES AGAINST U.S. INSTALLATIONS IN TURKEY. ALTHOUGH THAT DECISION WAS "AN EASY TARGET" FOR POLITICAL ATTACK, THE RPP WAS NOT RPT NOT INTERESTED IN SHORT-TERM PARTISAN GAINS BUT IN COOPERATING TO BRING ABOUT A GOOD RESULT FOR THE COUNTRY.

4. U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS. ONE INSIGHT THAT HAD EMERGED FROM THE TURKISH HANDLING OF THE EMBARGO ISSUE, BAYKAL OBSERVED, WAS THAT "NOBODY IN TURKEY WANTS TO BREAK OUR TIES WITH THE U.S." THE HARD TALK AGAINST THE U.S. HEARD IN TURKEY IN RECENT MONTHS WAS UNSPONTANEOUS AND CONTRARY TO MOST TURKS' BASIC INCLINATIONS. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT TURKEY WOULD NEVER END ITS ALIGNMENT WITH THE U.S. "UNLESS YOU ABSOLUTELY FORCE US". (NOTE: IN A RELATED COMMENT RPP SPOKESMAN ALEV COSKUN SAID DURING AN EARLIER TALK WITH EMBOFF THAT LEADING MEMBERS OF THE RPP HAD BECOME CONVINCED DURING RECENT SPEAKING TOURS OF THE COUNTRY THAT THE VOTERS WANTED TURKEY'S ALLIANCE WITH THE U.S. PRESERVED, THAT THEY OPPOSED "ADVENTURISM" IN FOREIGN POLICY, AND THAT ONE OF ECEVIT'S STRENGTHS WITH THE VOTERS WAS HIS FLUENCY IN ENGLISH AND HIS GOOD RELATIONS WITH U. . LEADER.)

5. COMMENT: ECEVIT'S PRESS CONFERENCE, GUNES' ARTICLE MENTIONED ABOVE, AND BAYKAL'S REMARKS,  
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PAGE 03 ANKARA 05633 221237Z

TAKEN TOGETHER, SUGGEST A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE RPP'S STANCE TOWARD THE GOVERNMENT'S HANDLING OF FOREIGN POLICY. AT A MINIMUM, THE RPP DOES NOT RPT NOT WANT TO BE VULNERABLE TO BLAME FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S IMMOBILITY ON CYPRUS, NOR FOR FORCING THE GOVERNMENT INTO ANY POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED MEASURES AGAINST U.S. INSTALLATIONS. THIS NEW ATTITUDE OF THE OPPOSITION, IF MAINTAINED, COULD HELP MAKE POSSIBLE THE GOVERNMENT-OPPOSITION DIALOGUE AND CONSENSUS THAT THE SECRETARY ADVOCATED

DURING HS MAY VISIT HERE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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